

real change, and we will not back out of our commitment to do the right thing and balance the budget.

IF THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT WORKING THEN AT LEAST THE CONGRESS SHOULD BE

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, this is day 20 of the partial Government shutdown.

Yesterday the Eastern Panhandle Social Service Agency called to tell me the first Federal worker was facing eviction. Another Federal worker told me yesterday that his mortgage company would not accept even partial payment for his mortgage. Today I have contacted the West Virginia Bankers Association asking that its member banks work closely with Federal employees facing financial difficulties. They are not unemployed because of any fault of their own, and if, as the Republican leadership promises, they are going to be paid eventually, they deserve credit forbearance. But even that does not help with the check-out line at the grocery store, paying the heating bill, or buying the kids' shoes.

Now there is word that the Gingrich Republican leadership wants to recess the House for 3 weeks leaving the Government partially shut down. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the Government going on another recess while the Government is still shut down and taxpayers pay \$40 million a day for services they are not receiving.

I voted yesterday to open the Government up. I am going to vote today against letting the Congress leave today. Mr. Speaker, if the Government is not working, then at least the Congress should be.

□ 1030

LIBERAL GIVEAWAY

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, A well-known news magazine this week called tax cuts a "giveaway."

That illustrates precisely the liberal mind-set of some in the media and most in this administration.

They actually think that the money of hard-working, lawabiding taxpayers belongs to the Government, not to the people who earned it.

Tax cuts mean American families will keep more. Liberals in the media and in the administration want the Government to take more and spend more.

Americans now are staggering under the heaviest tax burden in history. And the top half of wage earners already pay 95 percent of all income taxes.

The real question is: Who knows best how to spend hard-earned dollars—the

American people or the Federal Government?

HISTORIC HEIGHTS OF IRRESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have risen to historic heights of irresponsibility led by our history professor. What a shame. What a shame. A previous speaker said that we needed a key to unlock Government, and he did not have the key. He was wrong.

This is the key given to all 435 of us by the voters of our districts. It is a district question for each of us to be reasonable and responsible. We had that opportunity yesterday and we had a vote, and of all of the Republicans in the House, only two, only two of my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], used this card to unlock the lockout of Government employees and Government services to the American public.

My friend from Virginia who spoke previously said, stop making this a partisan issue. BOB DOLE is the leading candidate for President in the Republican Party. He said, this does not make sense.

MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE SALARIES WITHHELD DURING SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this is day 20 of the partial shutdown of Federal Government; 760,000 Federal employees did not receive their paychecks, and 280,000 of them cannot even report to work, although I hear many of them are trying very hard to do so; they do want to work.

I am a Federal employee. If our Federal employees are not being paid, I am having my salary withheld just as they are having their salaries withheld. They are being held hostage.

Also, I am here to work. I am not furloughed, and I will stay here to work, and I will vote against this House recessing until we have our Federal Government operating fully again. It is our responsibility; let us rise to it on both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue and open up Government.

CHILD SUPPORT SUFFERS DURING SHUTDOWN

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is truly difficult to balance the family budget when you do not know when the

next check is coming in. I know, because 28 years ago I was a single working mother with three small children, and I never received the child support that I was owed. Yet, as we head into the 20th day of the Gingrich Government shutdown, that is the same situation that the new majority is forcing on thousands of American families. Each day the Gingrich shutdown drags on, approximately 20,000 deadbeat parents get off the hook from paying their child support.

It is one thing being poor, Mr. Speaker, but not knowing when and if a check will come in severely compounds the problem.

By continuing to insist on huge Medicare cuts and education cuts and massive special interest tax breaks, the Gingrich Republicans are leaving thousands of American families in limbo, not knowing when they will receive their next child support check. It is time to end the Gingrich shutdown.

CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT SHARE BLAME FOR SHUTDOWN

(Mr. DAVIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, this is disgraceful. We have Members over here saying it is GINGRICH's fault, it is the President's fault, it is all of our faults, folks. We have not been able to get our act together. We could pass a continuing resolution. I favor doing that, and I voted yesterday with my colleagues to do it. But the President could have signed the appropriation bills, or he could have put a balanced budget on the table and that would end this entirely too. So we all share blame.

One of the most outrageous proposals I have seen is to recess this Congress until January 23. If we recess the time to move the discharge petition, that will take a longer period of time. I think that is wrong. We ought to bring this to a vote and let the House vote on it. Congress would go home for nearly 3 weeks and leave the Government unfunded. We would be asking Federal workers to work at their jobs for a period of 1 month and not pay them, if you can imagine that, while we being fully paid would go back to our districts.

I agree with the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] and the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] who just talked. While we vacation back home, we would be asking Federal workers to work without pay. It is wrong, it would be a disgrace, it would send a signal to the American people, let them eat cake. I will oppose it, Mr. Speaker.

SIGNS OF OUR TIMES

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)